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WHEN FIRE STRIKES, DO YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO?

It is sad but true – when fire strikes, seconds can mean the difference between life and death. And in that situation, you have to depend on yourself. Know the basics of fire safety - when to stop, drop and roll, how to escape from smoke by getting down, how to extinguish a fire and how to exit a burning building. These basics could save your life or your family.



When clothes catch fire – Stop, Drop and Roll!

- Running only fans the flames. If your clothes ignite, stop where you are. Drop to the ground. Roll back and forth until the fire is out.



Put out cooking fires with pan lids.

- Cooking grease has a low ignition point-it does not take long for an unwatched pan to overheat and burn. Smother the flames by simply covering the pan with its' lid. Don't throw water on the fire, you may actually spread burning grease across the kitchen. Don't try to carry the pan outside, you may drop it and burn yourself or ignite the draperies, wall paper and trim on the way to the door.



Stay low in smoke.

- Most fire deaths are caused by smoke and toxic gases, not flames. In today's plastic-filled homes, a furniture fire can release smoke so poisonous that one breath of it can kill. Since it is hot, smoke rises – so avoid the danger by crawling along the floor, where air is best.



Get out first, then call for help.

- When a smoke detector sounds or a fire ignites, GET OUT! STAY OUT! Do not go back inside until the firefighter tells you that it is safe to do so.



Develop and practice a home escape plan.

- Make sure that your family knows two ways out of each room and the meeting place outside of the home.



Purchase and use a smoke detector.

- A smoke detector is your best defense against fires that strike between midnight and 6:00 a.m., the time that the most fire deaths occur.